25. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for assisting in the identification of a marked liquid, the liquid comprising a plurality of markers miscible with the liquid and present in a predetermined pattern of relative concentrations, the apparatus comprising:

a detector for detecting the plurality of markers and for generating signals indicative of relative concentrations of each of the markers, the signals defining a measured concentration pattern; and

a pattern comparison element capable of comparing the measured concentration pattern with known concentration patterns of identified liquids, the known patterns being accessible, via a look up table, to the pattern comparison element, so as to assist in the identification of the marked liquid.

35. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said detector is limited to those portions of the electromagnetic spectrum associated with select vibrational mode signatures characteristic of said plurality of markers.

36. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising at least one additional detector, wherein the detector is limited to that portion of the electromagnetic spectrum associated with a select vibrational mode signature characteristic of a first marker and wherein the at least one additional detector is limited to that portion of the electromagnetic spectrum associated with a select vibrational mode signature characteristic of another of the plurality of markers.

37. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the detector measures a nitrile vibration and the at least one additional detector measures an isotopically labeled carbon-nitrile vibration.

38. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 36,wherein the detector measures infrared absorption band of a nitrile vibration at 2230 cm^{-1} and the at least one additional detector measures an isotopically labeled carbon-nitrile infrared absorption band at 2140^{-1} cm.

39. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the detector measures a nitrile vibration and the at least one additional detector measures an isocyanate vibration.

40. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 36,wherein the detector measures infrared absorption band of a nitrile vibration at 2230 cm^{-1} and the at least one additional detector measures an isocyanate infrared absorption band at 2268^{-1} cm.

41. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the detector measures absorbance at a wavelength of 520 nm and the at least one additional detector measures absorbance at a wavelength of 550 nm.

43. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein said comparison element further comprises a detector for determining the ratio of the concentration of a first marker to the concentration of a second marker.